# Highlights

of the Sayville School District

MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

## **April 2009**

District Newsletter Volume 24.5 http://www.sayville.k12.ny.us

## **Noteworthy**

Monday, April 20, 7:30 PM Sayville High School A CONCERT OF

LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S
WEST SIDE STORY MUSIC

CONCERT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Our award-winning Sayville High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Peter DeSalvo, will perform the music of Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story. This exceptional High School Wind Ensemble, considered one of the best in the state, has received outstanding ratings at the state, regional, and national levels.

### "Don't miss the night everyone talks about... JAZZ NIGHT Wednesday, April 22, 7:30 PM Sayville High School

The Manhattan Jazz scene comes to Sayville for this year's Jazz Night, featuring the Sayville High School Jazz Choir and Jazz Ensemble performing with two jazz giants, vocalist Jackie Presti and Dominic Farinacci, a world class trumpet player.

- Ms. Presti has sung and conducted choirs for over 30 major motion pictures, in addition to her television and On and Off Broadway performances.
- Mr. Farinacci, considered one of the most gifted jazz musicians under the age of 30, is a graduate of Juilliard, was discovered by Wynton Marsalis, and has performed and recorded with many highprofile jazz artists in the U.S. and abroad.

JAZZ NIGHT Tickets (suggested donation is \$10 adults, \$5 students/ seniors) will be available at the door or in advance by calling 631-244-6634.

Every year, March is designated as *Music in our Schools Month*. Among the many diverse and ongoing musical accomplishments of our Sayville students and staff, the following

items deserve special mention:



- Sayville Junior Tess Buono was selected for the Suffolk All-County High School Jazz Choir.
- Three outstanding Sayville Music Teachers—the most from any one school district on Long Island—had been selected by Nassau County as previous Guest Conductors:
  - High School Chorus Teacher Jeff Hoffman—Division I
  - High School Band Director
     Peter DeSalvo—Division I
  - Middle School Chorus Teacher Betsy Cohan—Division III (Grades 7-8)
  - Sayville Seniors Greg
     Jones and Thomas Mittiga
     performed at MENC All-Eastern
     Honors Ensembles in Providence,
     Rhode Island.
- Doug Jones participated in the Music Lovers Scholarship solo competition and placed third, winning a \$1,500 scholarship.
- Sayville School District opened the doors of the Middle School for the SMBA (Sayville Music Boosters for the Arts) sponsored SAYVILLE MUSIC IDOL fundraising contest (hosted by Gene Henriksen in cooperation with Music Idol Entertainment, www.musicidol.org, whose sponsors include WBLI and Cactus Hair Salon) that encouraged so many Middle School and High School students to take center stage and perform pop tunes.



During the Music Idol semifinals held on March 5<sup>th</sup>, the ten high school finalists and the ten Middle School finalists were:

#### **HIGH SCHOOL**

- SHANNON CANTER
- RAFFAELA CAPP
   KASEY GOLKA
- BRIANNA GOMEZ
- Molly McCauley
- JESSICA PELUSO
- CATHY RICO
- LYNDSEY ROMARD
- IACKIE ROUTH
- HARRISON SCHENKEL

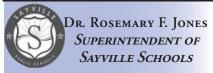
### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- Marissa Casazza
- Anna Corso
- Tim Costorf
- Jake Haggart
- John Haggart Shannon Hickey
- Liam Hofmeister
- Libby Larkin
- Kayla Stockert
- Jake Vail.

At the Finals (held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>) one High School student and one Middle School student were selected as Sayville Music Idols. (See website for updates.)

• SMBA also held its annual AFTERNOON IN CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS showcase with the remarkable performing talents of Sayville Seniors Thomas Mittiga, Christina Natoli, Melissa La Pinta, Jared Linehan, Roxy York, and Kristina Schroeter. In addition, student teacher Jonah Piali and Sayville Alumna/music teacher Kerri VanBoxel performed. Our professionals/ teachers who enhanced the afternoon with their amazing performances were Jeff Hoffman, Dr. Jen Morgo, and Amy McGrath.





### **Board of Education**

John Verdone,

President

Norman deVenau,

Vice President

**Trustees** 

THOMAS COOLEY
MAUREEN DOLAN
KEITH KOLAR
RAYMOND J. NELSON
DEBORAH VAN ESSENDELFT

At the March12<sup>th</sup>
BOE Meeting

Board Citations were given to students (see right).

Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, Superintendent of Schools, REPORTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Proposed 2009-10 School District Budget – (General Support): Dr. Jones/Mr. Belmonte
- 2. Principles of Engineering Class Project Display: Bryan Coon
- 3. BOCES Election
  - a) Annual Meeting, April 1, 2009
  - b) Vote on Administrative Budget, Wednesday, April 22, 2009
- 4. Board of Education Budget Adoption Date – April 16, 2009
- 5. Due Date for Petitions for Board Candidates – April 20, 2009
- 6. Budget Public Hearing May 12, 7:30 p.m. at Administration Building
- 7. Budget Vote and ElectionTuesday, May 19,7 a.m.to 9 p.m. High School

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 16th - Regular Board of Ed. Meeting – Admin Bldg, 8 p.m.

## **April 27-May 1st**

## Kindergarten Registration

If you have <u>NOT</u> received a letter in the mail with details on Kindergarten Registration, you <u>MUST</u> contact the Pupil Personnel Office at 244-6505 to make an appointment.

## AT THE MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> BOE MEETING

## CITATIONS WERE GIVEN TO...

the following elementary students by Principal Michele Gunther (Lincoln Avenue), along with BOE Trustee Keith Kolar:

### LINCOLN AVENUE AWARDS



(photo left) **Christine G.** • Lincoln Avenue National Geography Bee Champion

(photo below) Town of Islip

Basketball Sharpshooter Contest:

(I-r) Jack C., Rebecca K.,

and Sarin B.,

(not present for photos) Jason Intermesoli
and Alex Henry

(photo below) Our award-winning Varsity Cheerleading Team and Coach Dawn Thelian were presented BOE citations for their athletic and academic achievements by Athletic Director Charles Delargy and BOE President John Verdone.

#### **VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM**

- Long Island Champions
- National Semifinalists

Denise Arrasate Ashley Bizzaro Danielle Brownlee Brianna Burke Ryane Doolin Stephanie Filazzola Delaney Jones Malarie Molinari Maria O'Keefe Dana Marie Sauer Jenna Sheridan Kayla Smith Allison Spallholtz Kristi Troha



## Group



This year's Crafted With A Close-Knit Love Knit/Crochet Club at the Middle School, moderated (and taught) by Mrs. Jean Galima, has been generating a lot of love—in the form of blankets, preemie hats, and chemo hats donations—for local hospitals and organizations such as the Life Center of Long Island.

While her knitting club has been around

for years, Mrs. Galima continued the tradition and welcomed a new batch of Sixth-graders to the "very caring" fold to learn knitting and crocheting.

"All our members have been such outstanding craftspeople!" Mrs. Galima says with enthusiasm. "Members from the Seventh- and Eighth-grades have been contributing



throughout the year. Esra Erdogan made beautiful items during the summer, Chelsea Nadler and Isha Khawaja are also very dedicated contributors who have made so very

many beautiful granny square blankets and hats, and Janine Loesch (Eighth-grade) still amazes us all with the amount of beautiful hats she has donated to hospitals."

The Crafted With Love Club and Mrs. Galima also want to express their gratitude to "those who have donated yarn, as well as the PTA for their grant which has allowed us to purchase the best yarns and needles."

## CELEBRATING LOTE at the Middle School

Sayville Middle School students weren't just "hearing things" when the morning PA played foreign music, followed by announcements in Spanish. They may have been momentarily puzzled, but soon everyone remembered it was LOTE (LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH) Week.

The Middle School Language teachers, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. DeSiano, Mrs. Calarreta, Mrs. Martin, and Mrs. Reith, carefully



Nikki and Cindy with Fabriana

planned the weeklong LOTE celebration so their students wouldn't forget. Throughout the week, Sixth-grade students created thoughtful poster designs on language studies; the Middle School library window encouraged multicultural reading; a daily multilingual question-andanswer contest allowed students to research the question, submit the answer, and be picked for a prize, and at the end of each day, closing announcements were conducted in French.

Special guest Fabriana (right, above photo), a seventeen-year-old exchange student from Bolivia, visited Sayville Middle School midweek to share her cultural background. During her PowerPoint presentation, she explained the colors of her flag, described her school and family customs (ex., all family members are invited to attend their Senior Proms, it is not a boyfriend/girlfriend event), and showed slides of the natural wonders of her country. Fabriana concluded with a demonstration of how to make Papaya-banana smoothies that proved to be refreshing in any language.

During the remainder of the week, the older students attended classes that were conducted entirely in the language, and also viewed Finding Nemo in either a Spanish or French version. On Fiesta Friday, everyone enjoyed a class of international cuisine and realized that food always speaks a universal language—mmmmmm!

## National Art Honor Society Springs Into Action with Flower Pot Painting



Using colorful acrylic paints for a recreational activity at Sunrise Village, sixteen members of the National Art Honor Society taught "Flower Pot Painting" to twenty-three "artists in waiting." As the clay pots were transformed with designs that ranged from bunny rabbits to American flags, the enthusiastic students transferred their energy to the residents who gave in to their inner child and thoroughly enjoyed the activity. Sayville NAHS Art Advisor, Mrs. Kim Kamensky, and Sunrise Village activities director, Patricia Neu, who assisted Mrs. Kamensky in arranging this event, agreed, "It's hard to tell who had the better time, the kids or the residents of Sunrise Village."

The NAHS members attending this event were:

Anna Ambrose Tim Cowan Ela Erdogan Jenna Ferremi Melissa Furci Lauren Hammerle Patricia Hanlon Sadie Hartmann

Samantha Jahnke Kaitlyn Kwiatkowski Larissa Lampitelli Anthony Piacentini Colleen Roach Kristin Scheff Taylor Takats Zach Tordik

## A BEAST OF AN UNDERTAKING

In true Sayville High School tradition, the Tony-Award winning musical production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* was double-cast—two sets of beasts, beauties, principles, and players—that bestowed a double dose of magic over four spectacular nights.

Capturing the enchantment of this ambitious "Broadway production" on the Sayville High School stage was no easy task. If demanding score, intricate costumes, elaborate and enormous sets were not enough challenge, add to the mix the necessity of two casts ACTING across the emotional spectrum of levity and gravity—all the elements that made the Broadway show such a success—and one may be as daunted as the befuddled Maurice as he enters the Beast's dark Castle.

Wonders of it all, it worked—uniquely! Given the timeframe of rehearsals and the youthfulness of the company members, each of the Sayville performances was strongly cast and successfully delivered the power and beauty of the same story. Each night the classic tale was told

with distinguishing vigor and distinctive chemistry, compelling audiences to standing ovations—especially

Friday and Saturday nights, when performances were sold out.

Sayville High school's tradition of double casting—and this is rare among high schools—has always meant double the work for the Producer and directors, but it has doubled the opportunity for many more of our students to grow, not just theatrically, but in their ability for public speaking. Special thanks go to Mr. Steve Hailey, who has for 30 years cast a wider net and pulled in the talent from an apparently prolific pool of Sayville students.

The overall success of this undertaking relied upon so many shoulders. Additional thanks and congratulations go to everyone whose orchestra-pit or backstage talents contributed to this Music and Theatre Departments' production, including but not limited to, Musical Director Fred Diekman, Orchestra Conductor Peter

DeSalvo and his student musicians, Sound Supervisor Andy Giammalvo and his crew, Technical Supervisor Ken Van Essendelft along with Senior Crew Chief Keith Johnson, Dan Anderson and crew (assisted by Joe Cook, Michael Kennedy, Chris LoPreto, Glen Poli, and Fred Schreiber) who constructed the foreboding castle interior, along with scenery artist supervisor Taylor Takats, Choreographers Patricia Hough and Alena Yost, Lighting Manager Gary Leigh-Manuell with assistant Daniel Koehler, and the variety of Costume and Makeup supervision by the Sayville Players, assisted by Mrs. Donna Hailey.

In the end, Beauty transformed the savage Beast who "wins the world's forgiveness,"...Belle and the Prince find home, where they should be forever," and the audience sighed, satisfied. Twas a beautiful thing, indeed!





(below, I-r) The miserable Beast, enriched by the sonorous baritones of both actors, was passionately enraged by Thomas Mittiga, yet dramatically brooding with Jared Linehan.

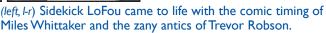








(above, I-r)The egotistical monster
Gaston was amusingly grand as
portrayed by the swaggering James
Harlin and the robust Mark Moskwa,



























(*l-r*) In this musical fantasy, there dwells the intellectual Belle who was exquisitely voiced by both the amazing Christina Jackson and the incomparable Roxy York.

## Bewitched house servants animated the gloomy castle (see below left):

- (I-r) Lumiere was played with perfect flare by the flawless Kenneth Murray and was quite debonair with Harrison Schenkel;
- (I-r) Cogsworth was funny and fastidious in Michael Miller's capable portrayal and a well-timed wit in Alexandra Moncayo's;
- (I-r) Mrs. Potts delivered her soothing outlook flavored by Amanda Rizzo's rich tones and Kassandra Golka's refreshing lilt;
- (I-r) Both Chips (adorable Mary McCauley and delightful Deanna Lumley) were "Equal" in satisfying our "Splenda" sweet tooth;
- (I-r) Madame de la Grand Bouche was hilariously over-the-top with Lexi Minogue's dazzling coloratura, yet hysterically embellished by Stefi Dier's characterization
- (I-r) Babette couldn't have been more flirtatious with Casey Jarvis, nor more irresistable with Mary Corrado





- See more Cherry Students of the Month
- See Waltzing Video of Second Graders
- Sayville High School Musical Beuty & the Beast slide show and photos

## see slide shows and color photos for...

- See more photos of a Close-Knit Group
- See Music Idol photos and winners
- See Budget Information Updates

GET TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISSING Click on flighlights Online (sayvilleki2ny.us) for current district and school news coverage.



## CHERRY AVENUE WALTZING IN CHARACTER

### WITH MISS ANDERSON'S SECOND GRADE

Miss Jeanette Anderson could attest that her Second-grade students in Cherry Avenue are real characters, or at least they appeared in character for a special class activity.

As part of the Language Arts curriculum on researching, writing, and public speaking, the students

were required to choose a character to study.

After, Miss Anderson scheduled an additional feature—a Storybook Character Fairy Tale Ball, with invitations to the parents—at which the students would dress as their characters and showcase all they had learned.

With the help of Music teacher Mrs. Kristi Woerner, the students practiced waltzing for over a week, in time for the fancy Fairy Tale Ball.

The Ball was a splendid afternoon! Each student, masquerading in character, read aloud the descriptions and comparisons they had researched, then the music began. As the cast of Storybook Characters bowed and waltzed, guided by Mrs.

Woerner, to the music provided by accompanist student teacher Mr. Lentz on the piano, the invited guests were entirely charmed. Sighs of oohs and aahs were followed by genteel applause.



Storybook Characters included Harry Potter, Olivia, Little Red Riding Hood, Henry and Mudge, Strega Nona, Cowgirl Kate, Amelia Bedelia, Jack from the Magic Treehouse Series, Fancy Nancy, and Miss Daisy from Miss Daisy is Crazy.

To cap the event, each character presented a flower to his or her special guest, bowed, and asked. "May I have this dance?" The whole affair ended as parents waltzed with a distinctive character on a lovely and cultured afternoon.

It was a star-studded event that included a red-carpet walk, a grand entrance, and fashion statements that had the critics buzzing. The Second Annual Oscar



Celebration at Cherry Avenue opened with an award-winning song and dance number, directed by Music teacher Kristi Woerner and performed by the "nominees"—all the Thirdgraders in Mrs. Batterberry's, Mrs. Falco's, and Mrs. Fulton's classes.

Disguising the New York State learning standards for public speaking in a selfesteem promotional program, the ceremony was fun and rewarding for everyone! An honorary award for Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. Geraldine Sullivan Keck, was a big hit that had both the audience of parents and the Oscar winners laughing.

## Snowman Building: A Lesson in Invention



Not all snow is created equal. This is what Mrs. Metzler's First-grade students at Cherry Avenue lesson for another day. discovered when they came to school prepared for an engineering lesson on how to build a snowman. Each group of students was expected to work cooperatively with an assortment of boots, scarves, hats, and gloves and to experiment with different construction methods. Some groups tried rolling snowballs; others tried chopping

chunks of snow. Only the dry snow was not cooperating—a science

Assisted by Mr. Rich Ortiz from district maintenance and his plow, the students revamped their plans and created a "Snow Blob" out of the plowed pile. Back in the classroom, warmed by hot chocolate and cookies, the students created a "published" book that outlined the sequence of events and the unexpected but ingenious outcome of their activity.

## Following the Flow of THE KIDSWIM WATER SAFETY INITIATIVE

Cherry, Lincoln, and Sunrise Kindergarteners Learned Pool Safety at School Assemblies

Sayville Kindergarten students couldn't stop giggling at Gus and Goldie (photo right). The live puppet show, which opened the KidSwim Long Island Water Safety presentation at each elementary school, starred two entertaining fish who demonstrated pool safety rules.

When Gus appears poolside wearing earphones and drinking from a glass soda

bottle, Goldie warns him of such dangers. During the show, Gus and Goldie help each other by discussing other safety tips, such as keeping the pool gate closed, having responsible adults present while swimming, not diving in shallow areas, and keeping a phone nearby to call in case of an emergency. When asked, "What number do you call in an emergency?", all the Sayville Kindergarten students shouted the correct answer in unison, "911!"

The puppet show was followed by a video of Stewie the Duck Learns to Swim, based upon a book that reinforced Gus and Goldie's lessons. The story of how a young duck learns proper behavior around a pool includes an irresistible song (to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little *Star*) that lists the most important pool safety rules. The children in



the audience quickly took up the lyrics and were singing the safety song with enthusiasm even before the video ended.

As a memento of their visit, KidSwim Long Island representatives distributed a packet to each child that contained a copy of the Stewie book and CD, as well as a coloring book.

The children could be heard leaving the presentation singing...don't jump in 'til you learn to swim...cover your chest with a safe life vest...—the very results for which KidSwim Long Island was hoping.

Sponsored by Long Island Pool & Spa Association, Inc., KidSwim Long Island is an elementary educational program to advise children and the parents about water safety. It is

> a proactive response, by the companies that do their best to install pools with all the safety mechanisms in place, to end childhood drownings in pools. Educating pool users on how to maximize those safeties is what KidSwim Long Island hopes to accomplish by reaching out to children and their parents.

For information about KidSwim Long Island, contact Kyle Chaikin, Long Island Pool & Spa Association, Inc., 293-9064.



Sunrise Drive Kindergarten students enjoyed Stewie the Duck's lessons on pool safety.

## March was also designated

Congratulations to the following Elementary student artists who had their artworks on display at the Bay Area Friends of the Fine Arts Gallery at the Gillette House:



#### **LINCOLNAVENUE**

Tyler Schaefer Sarah Hauk Cameron Batterberry Rory Collins Marco Rossi Abigail Tucker Mackenzie Koster Parker E. Mayo **Emily Parsowith** Gabrielle Coppola Alex Pittari Isabella Wilson Emma Doxsee **Justin Butler** Kalista Alfano Bella Coan Erin O'Halloran **Hunter Selts** Connor Granville Sean Barry Mickey Danielson Collin Ewald

Sierra Graygor

Michael Leach Hailey Comiskey Elizabeth Pigott Cielle Pappalardo Sean Velasquez John Tama

**CHERRY AVENUE** Iulia Howland Michael Nadeau Luca Esposito Haley Kroll **Emily Araci** Chris Castelli Lillian Schweikert Emma Malone Chloe McCormack-Falk Ava Herrera Claudia Lynch Joshua Holloway Ryan Hendrickson Jillian Marks Greenlei Otto Donald Schweikert

Allison Neumeyer

Kyla Reitzel **Drew Geffner** Helen Ciavolella Emma Davis Camryn Schilling Jillian DeCanio Tara Feather Amanda Pacholik Taylor Kobel Matt Pacholik Samantha Scherff Megan Byerley Nadia Yajadda Gabrielle DiTomasso John Cutrone Meghan Schick Ionathan Nolan Katherine McClellan Liam Berlingieri **SUNRISE DRIVE** Sophia Denaro

Nicolette Brudi Matthew Mullowney Zachary Pascarella

William Mesloh III Ashley Daigle lacob Feldman Michael Earvolino Kristen Eichele Jenna Harclerode Melissa Chester Terina Imperato Nolan Ainslie Callen Gallagher Christy Wichert Samantha Johnson Christopher Palmeri Nicholas Burkel Victoria Musorofiti Blake Cunzio Olivia Zelli Salvatore Prevosto Caitlin Flanagan Madison Gallagher Lara Hirsch Jessica Reisert Jillian Brudi

## Sayville SCHOOL SPORTS

## 2008-2009 A CHIEVENENTS

### VARSITY GIRLS

### **B**ASKETBALL

- Team record: 12-7
- 3rd place in League V
- Advanced to the semifinals in Class 'A' Suffolk County Championships (& lost in double overtime to the Suffolk County Champion, Harborfields)
- N.Y.S.P.H.Ś.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## VARSITY BOYS

## BASKETBALL

- Team record: 2-17
- 8th place in League V
- N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## VARSITY BOWLING

- Team record: 5-7
- 5th place in League IV
- 4th place in Small School County Championships
- N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## VARSITY BOYS

## Swim/Diving

- Team record: 8-1
- 1st place in League II
- League II Champions
- 3rd place in the Suffolk County Championships
- N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## Varsity Boys

## TRACK & FIELD

• N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## Varsity Girls Track & Field

- Suffolk County Division Champions
- N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Scholar-Athlete Team

## VARSITY WRESTLING

- Team record: 8-5
- 4th place in League V
- Eastern States
   participant top
   50 schools in the
   northeast region
- N.Y.S.P.H.S.Ā.A. Scholar-Athlete Team



- Fall Cheer Classic @ East Islip HS 1st place Small Varsity division & "Grand Champion" over all Divisions.
- UCA New England Regional @ Danbury, CT - 2nd place Small Varsity Division

## VARSITY CHEERLEADERS

- LICCA
  Competition @
  Comsewogue HS
  Ist place Small
  Varsity Division & Ist place "Power Four" stunt challenge
- LINY Cheer Challenge @ West Babylon HS – 1st place Small Varsity Division
- LINY Cheer
   Challenge @ Sachem
   North HS 1st place
   Small Varsity Division

- LICCA
  Competition @
  Freeport HS Ist
  place Small Varsity
  Division
- LICCA Finals @
   Walt Whitman
   HS "Long Island
   Champions" 1st
   place Small Varsity
   Division
- UCA Nationals
   Walt Disney
   World, Orlando,
   FL National
   "Semifinalist" Small
   Varsity Division

### Three Middle School Teams win SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS

For exemplifying sportsmanship, leadership, and fellowship during this winter sports season, three Sayville teams: 7th Grade Boys Basketball, 8th Grade Boys Basketball and 7th Grade Girls Volleyball won sportsmanship awards from Suffolk County Athletics.

This award is presented by Section XI and is based upon evaluations from opposing schools and coaches in the sport, throughout the county.

Congratulations, teams and coaches, for your admirable conduct.



LINDA A. MITTIGA
SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT Highlights Newsletter
and District Website Highlights Onling

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